

FIRE BELCHES FORTH.

ERUPTIONS OF TWO CELEBRATED VOLCANOES.

How Old Vesuvius Poured Out Destruction and Then Smoldered for Years—Terrible Work of Mt. Etna in 1169—Other Great Volcanic Mountains.

Mt. Etna and Its Flames.
Mount Etna is again in eruption, and for the eighty-fourth time is attracting the attention of the world. The earliest recorded eruption of Etna is one mentioned by Diodorus Siculus, which caused the Sicani to desert its vicinity and move further to the south. No date is given, but it is said to have taken place in the seventh century B. C. The most terrible eruption of the mountain which has ever been recorded was in February, 1169. An earthquake, felt for a long distance, destroyed Catania and buried 15,000 people. The cathedral of the city at the time was crowded with people celebrating the feast of St. Agatha. The cathedral was ruined and the worshippers buried, together with

which there is any record occurred Aug. 24 in the year 79, during the reign of Titus. It is memorable not only as the eruption which destroyed Pompeii and Herculaneum and caused the death of Pliny, the naturalist, but also as having had his nephew, the younger Pliny, for its historian. He gives a most graphic description of this magnificent though terrible scene.

The cloud which had scattered so deep a murkiness over the day had now settled into a solid and impenetrable mass. It resembled less even the thickest gloom of night in the open air than the close and blind darkness of some narrow room. But in proportion as the blackness gathered did the lightnings around Vesuvius increase in their vivid and scorching glare. Nor was their horrible beauty confined to the usual lines of fire; no rainbow ever rivalled their varied and prodigious dyes. Now brightly blue as the most azure depth of a southern sky, now of a livid and snakelike green, darting restlessly to and fro as the folds of an enormous serpent, now of a lurid and intolerable crimson, gushing forth through the columns of smoke far and wide and lighting up the whole country for miles, then

In 1631 one of the greatest of modern eruptions took place. The cone poured out a column of vapor so loaded with ashes as to have the appearance of black smoke, and which assumed the



THE CRATER OF VESUVIUS.

usual form of a pine tree. The column of vapor was carried over nearly 100 miles of country. At the same moment the summit of the cone poured out seven streams of lava, one of which destroyed two-thirds of Terra del Greco, a second Resina, which had been built on the site of Herculaneum; another the village of Granatello and a part of Portici. No less than 18,000 persons are said to have perished in this catastrophe.

Other eruptions occurred in 1638 and 1660, when the crater was so cleared out that three distinct holes could be seen in action at the bottom of the hollow. From 1704 to 1708 there were frequent eruptions, the worst being in 1707, when ashes, stones and lava were cast forth in great quantities, Naples being Aug. 4 covered with a dense shower of ashes. From 1712 to 1737 there were constant eruptions, being at times thrown to a height of 1,000 feet above the orifice from which they issued. The years 1751, 1754, 1758 and 1760 were also very turbulent.

The mountain was comparatively quiet until 1834, when two streams of lava were thrown out, one over the margin of the crater, the other from the base of the old cone accompanied by a sea of flame. One stream lost itself in the Atrio del Cavallo, the other flowed down in a vast current of great rapidity, nearly half a mile broad and from eighteen to thirty feet deep. It did not stop for eight days, and in its course it destroyed the village of Capreece, leaving only four houses out of 500. In 1838-39 there were also eruptions of great violence. The crater was changed by the last outburst, assuming the form of a funnel 300 feet deep, accessible to the bottom.

After a few years of quietness the mountain again resumed business at the old stand. The night of Feb. 9, 1854, there was a terrific explosion and pour-

ing out of lava, one stream reaching and utterly destroying Bosco Reale, the wood formed of stately oaks and ash trees. The large trees, as soon as enveloped in the seething lava stream, poured out jets of hissing steam from every knot and branch and then exploded with a loud report, shooting upwards of fifty feet or more. It formed a wonderful spectacle to see those large trees, burning brilliantly, shooting through the air in every direction. This eruption changed the appearance of the mountain entirely. The walls of the old crater were broken down and the central cone reduced in height and form. After this Vesuvius became a marvelously peaceful, though it sputtered and shook the earth occasionally.

During the first three months of 1868 there were numerous outbursts from the top of the great cone which caused it to reach a greater elevation than at any former period, the height April 3 being 4,253 feet above the level of the sea.

At the beginning of 1871 the mountain again exhibited signs of activity, which continued throughout the year and culminated in the eruption of 1872. April 24 five streams of lava issued from the great cone. During the night of the 25th a fresh stream of lava issued about half way down the side of the crater. A number of people had collected to view this, when a torrent of lava suddenly burst out close to the crater of 1855, and enveloped and killed a number of the sightseers. The 28th and 29th there was a tremendous outburst of ashes, which fell over the surrounding country as far as Naples, obscuring the daylight and entirely destroying the vegetation.

Prof. Palmieri of Naples has laid it down as a rule that when, after a considerable period of repose, the central crater presents a series of small and frequent eruptions, a grand outburst may be expected. Automatic instruments now in use at the observatory give and record the warnings of the slightest trembling of the crater.

Other Volcanoes.
Iceland, as is well known, has a geological formation, and its hot volcanic eruptions form a strong contrast to its climate. Most of the mountains of the island have been volcanoes. Hecla, the most famous, is between 4,000 and 5,000 feet in height. It has eighteen recorded eruptions, the latest being 1845-6. The earliest known eruption was in 1104, which gave the name "sand-rain" winter to the season in which it occurred. Vast quantities of dust are discharged from the Icelandic volcanoes, a column of ashes said to be 16,000 feet high having arisen from Hecla in 1766.

Popocatepetl, or, in the language of the Aztecs, "smoking mountain," is the most noted volcano in the Western hemisphere, and one of the highest mountains in either America. Its snow-covered cone towering up 17,853 feet above the sea. At its summit there lies an immense crater about a mile across and more than a third of a mile in precipitous depth. Sulphur from the crater is or has been quarried at an elevation of 12,000 feet. During the last 300 years there have been but two or three eruptions, and those have been mild. Smoke constantly issues from the mountain, and at times cinders and stones are sent up in showers.

Mount St. Elias, in Alaska, is classed as an active volcano, and exceeds Popocatepetl in height, the latest estimates placing its height at 18,100 feet. Interesting volcanic remains are to be found in the western part of the United States and especially in Utah. The most interesting volcanic district in Utah is near Fillmore, where volcanic buttes and tables rest upon the plain at distances of ten to thirty miles apart. The Tabernacle crater and Lavant butte may be mentioned in connection with volcanic remains in Utah.

The demonstrations accompanying a volcanic eruption depend upon the character of the material within the crater and the passage leading downward. If the crater has a thin floor and the passage below is partially open or filled with molten lava, the volcanic gases can escape upward and outward with comparative quiet. But if the passage is badly obstructed violent explosions may take place, preceded by rumblings, and even by earthquakes, far-reaching in effect.

The London Lady-Help Movement.
The "lady-help" movement started in London a few years ago was practically a dead failure, but an effort is now to be made to revive it in slightly different shape. For this purpose the Household Auxillary Association has been formed. Both employers and applicants for situations are to supply references on registering their names as annual members. The ladies who take service are not to be required to take their meals or share a sleeping-room with regular servants, nor will they be asked to undertake scrubbing, blacking boots, or carrying heavy weights upstairs, although special agreements may be made in particular cases. This is the plan adopted by the Gentlemen's Employment Association in Manchester, which has been in operation for a little more than a year, and has just issued its first report. From this it appears that the lady-helps are most desirous of finding situations as companions, positions which are about the most difficult of all to find. There is a good demand for nurses and plenty of ladies willing to undertake the duties of such places, but, curiously



DURING THE ERUPTION OF 1880.

enough, most of the employers seem to think that "lady-helps" ought to be willing to work for much smaller wages than those paid to regular servants or even for no wages at all, for the sake of getting a comfortable home. In other words, they feel that they ought not to be called upon to pay equal prices for skilled and unskilled labor. If young "ladies" knew more about ordinary household duties they would be better fitted for making a livelihood if overtaken by misfortune. The problem now is how to divide the necessary preliminary instruction for women absolutely penniless and helpless, without setting them to common "drudgery." Some day or other the association hopes to have funds for this purpose, but where they are to come from no one yet has the least idea.

Will Build an Unsinkable Boat.

A Leith, Scotland, boat builder is the patentee of a boat which he claims is unsinkable and uncapsizable. Hitherto he has constructed them of steel and he claims that owing to the manner in which the fore and aft sections, which are conical in shape, are permanently and hermetically sealed the boats are rendered unsinkable, even if filled with water, as the water runs back into the sea through the opening in the center board casing. The cruising yacht he is about to build will not be of steel, however, but of an aluminum alloy. The metal is as white as silver and possesses a breaking strain of twenty-four tons to the square inch. It is unaffected by water. The yacht, which instead of being painted will be polished, will be about thirty-two feet long and eight feet broad and will be provided with a roony cabin paneled in oak and a commodious forecabin. The deck fittings, as well as a centerboard dingy which will accompany the yacht, will be made of the same white metal. If this experiment should turn out successfully a new departure in yacht construction and fittings may be expected.

The Star-Spangled Banner.

English antiquaries now positively assert that the star-spangled banner was not evolved from the depths of the inner consciousness of a committee of patriots in the parlor of Mrs. Ross, in this beautiful Quaker City; and they point to sundry tombstones, monuments, and family records still extant in England as conclusive evidence that the starry and striped flag of Britannia's runaway daughter was simply an outgrowth from the coat-of-arms of the Washington family.—Philadelphia Record.

ACTS OF THE SPECIAL SESSION.

The following laws were enacted at the special session of the Legislature, August 6th and 6th, or the reappointment of the State into Senatorial and Representative districts:

AN ACT

For the apportionment of Senators in the State Legislature.

SECTION 1.—The people of the State of Michigan enact, That this State shall be and is hereby divided into thirty-two Senate Districts, each district to be entitled to one Senator, which said districts shall be constituted as follows, viz:

FIRST DISTRICT.—The ninth, eleventh, thirteenth and fifteenth wards in the city of Detroit, and the townships of Grosse Pointe, Hamtramck, Greenfield, Redford, Livonia, and Plymouth, in the county of Wayne.

SECOND DISTRICT.—The first, second, third, fifth, and seventh wards in the city of Detroit, and the townships of Grosse Pointe, Hamtramck, Greenfield, Redford, Livonia, and Plymouth, in the county of Wayne.

THIRD DISTRICT.—The twelfth, fourteenth, and sixteenth wards in the city of Detroit, and the townships of Canton, Nankin, Dearborn, Springwell, Van Buren, Romulus, Taylor, Keosauqua, Huron, Brownstown, and Montclair, and the city of Wyandotte in the county of Wayne.

FOURTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Lenawee and Monroe.

FIFTH DISTRICT.—The counties of St. Joseph, Benzie, and Hillsdale.

SIXTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Berrien and Cass.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Allegan and Van Buren.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Kalamazoo and Calhoun.

NINTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Jackson and Washtenaw.

TENTH DISTRICT.—The county of St. Clair.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Shiawassee and Ingham.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Livingston and Genesee.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Shiawassee and Ingham.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Barry and Eaton.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.—The first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, and twelfth wards in the city of Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.—The tenth and eleventh wards in the city of Grand Rapids, and the townships of Tyrone, Solon, Nelsa, Spencer, Sparta, Alcona, Courtland, Oakfield, Alpine, Plainfield, Cannon, Grant, Walker, Grand Rapids, Ada, Vergennes, Wyoming, Paris, Cascade, Lowell, Byron, Graham, Caledonia, and Bonine in the county of Kent.

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Ionia and Montcalm.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Clinton and Gratiot.

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Huron and Sanilac.

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT.—The counties of Tuscola and Leape.

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT.—The county of Saginaw.

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT.—The counties of Bay, Arenac and Midland.

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Muskegon and Ottawa.

TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Oshtemo, Newaygo, Mecosta and Isabella.

TWENTY-SIXTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Manistee, Mason, Lake and Oscoda.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Benzie, Wexford, Grand Traverse, Leelanaw, Kalkaska, Antrim and Charlevoix.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Missaukee, Roseconum, Ogemaw, Iosco, Clare and Gladwin.

TWENTY-NINTH DISTRICT.—The counties of Mackinac, Chippewa, Lapeer, Schoolcraft, Delta and Menominee.

THIRTY-FIRST DISTRICT.—The counties of Marquette, Alger, Dickinson and Iron.

THIRTY-SECOND DISTRICT.—The counties of Houghton, Baraga, Keweenaw, Ontonagon and Isle Royale.

SECTION 2.—The election returns of each county forming one senate district, shall be made to the county clerk's office of said county. The election returns of each senate district composed of more than one county, shall be made to the county clerk's office of the county in such senate district containing the largest number of inhabitants according to the census of one thousand eight hundred and ninety. The election returns of each senate district composed of a portion of a county, shall be made to the county clerk's office of such county. This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Approved August 6th, 1892.

AN ACT

To apportion anew the representatives among the several counties and districts of the State.

SECTION 1.—The people of the State of Michigan enact, That the House of Representatives shall hereafter be composed of one hundred members, elected agreeable to a ratio of one representative to every twenty thousand nine hundred and thirty-eight persons, including

civilized persons of Indian descent not members of any tribe, in each organized county, and one representative of each county having a fraction more than a moiety of said ratio, and not included therein, until the one hundred representatives are assigned, that is to say within the County of Wayne, twelve (12); Kent, five (5); Saginaw, four (4); Bay, three (3); St. Clair, two (2); Leelanaw, two (2); Jackson, two (2); Calhoun, two (2); Washtenaw, two (2); Berrien, two (2); Oakland, two (2); Muskegon, two (2); Marquette, two (2); Genesee, two (2); Kalamazoo, two (2); Allegan, two (2); Ingham, two (2); Houghton, two (2); Ottawa, two (2); Montcalm, two (2); Shiawassee, two (2); Tuscola, two (2); Monroe, two (2); Eaton, two (2); Macomb, two (2); Shiawassee, one (1); Hillsdale, one (1); Van Buren, one (1); Lapeer, one (1); Gratiot, one (1); Huron, one (1); Clinton, one (1); St. Joseph, one (1); Branch, one (1); Manistee, one (1); Barry, one (1); Cass, one (1); Menominee, one (1); Livingston, one (1); Newaygo, one (1); Mecosta, one (1); Isabella, one (1); Mason, one (1); Oceana, one (1); the counties of Midland, Gladwin and Arenac shall constitute a representative district and shall be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Midland.

The counties of Wexford, Missaukee, and Clare shall constitute a representative district and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Wexford.

The counties of Grand Traverse, Leelanaw, and Benzie shall constitute a representative district and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Grand Traverse.

The counties of Antrim, Charlevoix, and Kalkaska shall constitute a representative district and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Antrim.

The counties of Iosco, Alcona, Roseconum, and Ogemaw shall constitute a representative district and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Iosco.

The counties of Alpena, Montcalm, Ogemaw, and Crawford shall constitute a representative district, and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Alpena.

The counties of Cheboygan, Emmet, Presque Isle, and Meniston shall constitute a representative district and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Cheboygan.

The counties of Chippewa, Mackinac, and Lapeer shall constitute a representative district and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Chippewa.

The counties of Delta, Schoolcraft, and Alger shall constitute a representative district and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Delta.

The counties of Dickinson, Iron, and Baraga shall constitute a representative district, and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Dickinson.

The counties of Gogebic, Ontonagon, Keweenaw, and Isle Royale shall constitute a representative district and be entitled to one representative, and the election returns of said district shall be made to the county of Gogebic.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect, Approved Aug. 6, A. D., 1892.

The Old Base-Burner All Right.

"The sun is 15,000,000 years old, and will last 15,000,000 years longer." This fact will quiet a great deal of anxiety and alarm. An impression had got abroad that the sun would last only 14,000,000 years longer. The sun holds its age well. Oldest inhabitants say that it does not look a day older than it did sixty-five years ago.—Puck.

UNUSUALLY speaking the worst bred person in company is a young traveler just returned from abroad.—Swift.

JUDGE MORSE NAMED.

HE HEADS THE WOLVERINE DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

The Democratic State Convention nominates the Jurist for Governor Without a Dissenting Vote—The Other Candidates—Leading Points in the Platform Adopted.

The Ticket.

Governor.....ALLAN B. MORSE
Lieutenant Governor.....JAMES F. EDWARDS
Treasurer.....FREDERICK MARVIN
Secretary of State.....C. F. MARKEY
Auditor General.....A. VANIER
Attorney General.....ADOLPHUS A. ELLIS
Superintendent of Public Instruction.....F. S. FITCH
Commissioner State Land Office.....G. T. SHAFPER
Member of State Board of Equalization.....A. J. BURR
Elector-at-large, Eastern District.....G. H. DURAND
Elector-at-large, Western District.....F. WHITE

Precisely at noon Chairman D. J. Campan, of the State Central Committee, called the Democratic Convention to order in Grand Rapids. After reading the call the temporary organization was effected, with the Hon. I. M. Weston, of Grand Rapids, as Chairman. He made a short speech, outlining the work of the convention and predicting a sweeping victory for the Democratic party next November. Gov. Winans' letter declining to run again for his present office was then read. Chairman Weston also read a telegram from Auditor General Stone, in which the latter positively declined to allow his name to be again presented in connection with the nomination for Auditor General. After the appointment of the usual committees the convention took a recess until 2 p. m.

The convention reassembled at 2:15 and the Committee on Credentials reported every county in the State represented except Isle Royal. The Committee on Order of Business recommended the Hon. T. A. E. Woodcock as permanent Chairman, and this was loudly applauded. Chairman Weston appointed Peter White, W. R. Burt and Gen. J. G. Parkhurst a committee to bring Mr. Woodcock to the stage. Mr. Woodcock was vociferously applauded when introduced and his address was punctuated freely with applause.

Named by a Rising Vote.

The order of business making the nominations preceded the report of the committee on resolutions, the convention proceeded to business at once, and Edwin F. Uhl named Judge Allan B. Morse of Ionia for Governor. Mr. Uhl presented Judge Morse's name for the Vice Presidency at Chicago, and his presence was greeted with long applause. When the applause subsided W. C. Thomson, of Detroit, moved that the nomination of Morse be made by acclamation. T. F. Carroll amended to make it by rising vote, and everybody got up and cheered, and the nomination was made.

E. F. Uhl, W. R. Burt, and W. C. Murphy were appointed a committee to bring Judge Morse before the convention.

L. Maurice Finn, of Ishpeming, nominated James P. Edwards for Lieutenant Governor, and the nomination was made by acclamation. Mr. Edwards had hardly been nominated when Judge Morse appeared and was received with the wildest enthusiasm. Judge Morse was introduced by Mr. Woodcock, and briefly thanked the convention for the honor conferred upon him.

Other Nominations Made.

The 7th, through Thomas F. Crocker, presented the name of Arthur M. Clark, of Ludington, for Secretary of State. Timothy Tarnsey, on behalf of the 8th, nominated Charles H. Markey, of Saginaw, for the same place. Markey's name was seconded from various parts of the house. Clark's name was withdrawn and Markey's nomination was made unanimous.

The nominations of Frederick Marvin, of Wayne, for Treasurer, and James A. Vannier, of Marquette, for Auditor General, were also made without opposition; but Kent had a candidate for the Attorney Generalship in the person of Thomas F. McGarry, the late Congressman Melbourne H. Ford's law partner. M. M. Houseman eloquently presented McGarry's name, but the Ellis sentiment proved too strong and McGarry's name was withdrawn and Ellis' nomination made unanimous before the roll call was half finished.

The ticket was then completed by the nomination by acclamation of the following officers: Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ferris S. Fitch, of Pontiac; Commissioner State Land Office, George T. Shaffer, of Cass; member of State Board of Education, James A. Burr, of Genesee.

Then the convention, without opposition, chose the following elector-at-large: Eastern District, George H. Durand, of Genesee; Western District, Peter White, of Marquette.

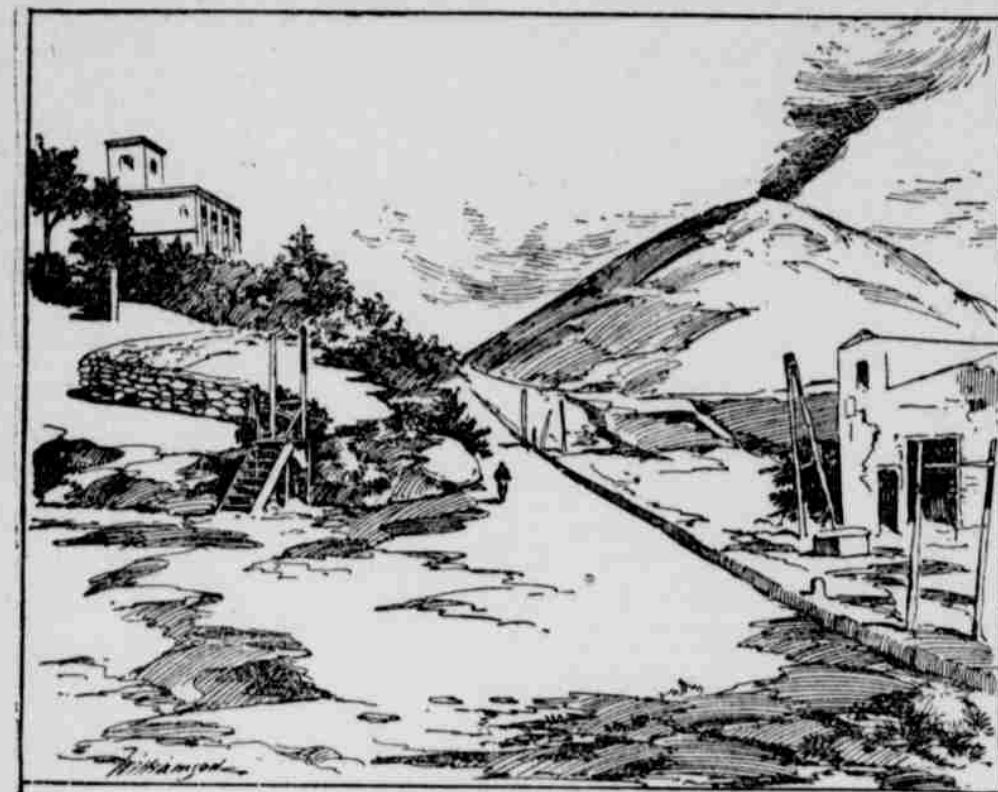
The Platform Adopted.

The platform was presented, adopted without amendment, and thirty minutes later the convention adjourned.

The platform adopted, after congratulating the country and the Democratic party on the nomination of Grover Cleveland and Adlai E. Stevenson for President and Vice President, pledges them its hearty support and commends the honest, faithful, and economical administration of Gov. Edwin B. Winans. It says the civil authorities of the State are the constitutional conservators of the peace, and that the military should only be called into requisition in cases of great emergency, and then only as aids and subordinates to the civil authorities. It denounces the employment by private individuals and corporations of armed bodies of men, no matter under what pretense, as a menace to the peace and welfare of the country and States, and the enactment of laws to the end that Pinkerton and kindred organizations may be relegated to obscurity and disgrace. It denounces the McKinley tariff as the culminating atrocity of class legislation.

SODA-WATER as good as that obtained from drug stores, and much cheaper, may be made as follows: Fill a soda bottle (a siphon) or a catsup bottle with spring water. Pour in forty grains of bicarbonate of soda and thirty grains of tartaric acid in small crystals, and cork and tie firmly.

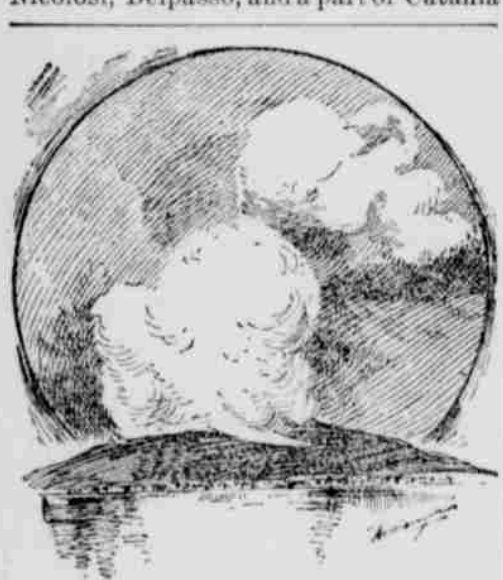
LINIMENTS and ointments should always be applied to the patient with the hand; if applied with cotton or a cloth, the good effect obtained from the friction would be lost.



OBSERVATORY AND SUMMIT OF VESUVIUS.

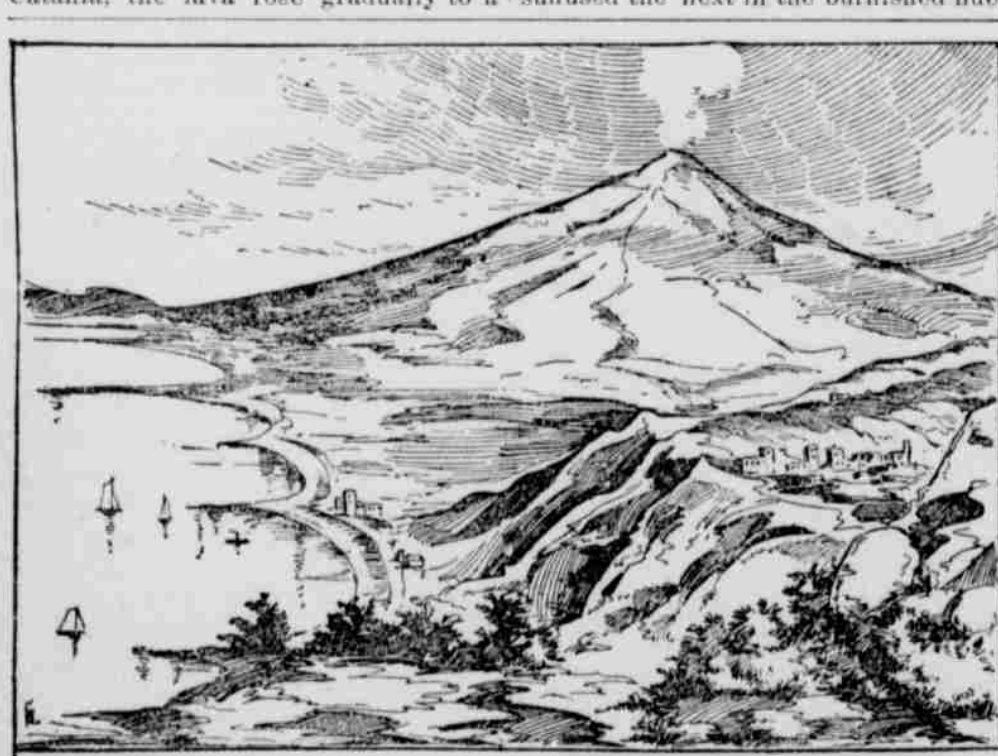
bishops and forty-four Benedictine monks. One side of the crater fell in.

In 1537 a part of the village of Nicolosi was destroyed. At this time a stream of lava ran for fifteen miles down the mountain. A terrible eruption occurred in 1663. During this eruption Nicolosi, Belpasso, and a part of Catania



VESUVIUS, APRIL 25, 1872, AT 3 P. M.

were destroyed. Belpasso, a village of 8,000 people, was destroyed by the outburst from a new crater which opened about a mile below the others and threw out a flood of lava two miles wide. Stopped for a time by the city walls of Catania, the lava rose gradually to a



VIEW OF MOUNT ETNA.

height of sixty feet and finally rushed over the walls and destroyed a part of the city. Altogether some fifteen towns were destroyed by this eruption and lava thrown out covering an area of at least forty square miles. The latest eruption prior to the present one was in 1886. This lasted about three weeks and was preceded by earthquakes. Cinders fell as far distant as Messina, about eighty miles from Mount Etna.

Mount Etna is one of the most noted and marvelous volcanoes in the world. It is located on the eastern coast of Sicily, is 10,908 feet or more than two miles high, and its base has a circumference of about ninety miles. Some of the lava from its eruptions forms headlands several hundred feet high along the Italian Sea. The area of the mountain is about four hundred and eighty square miles, and includes two cities—Catania and Aci Reale—and sixty-three towns and villages. It is estimated that as many as 100,000 people live on the sides of the mountain. The mountain may be ascended, preferably between June and December. A party which ascended in August found it so cold near the top that extra coats were necessary. The abyss of the crater was found in 1877 to be about a thousand feet deep and some two or three miles around.

Mount Vesuvius.
The volcano of Vesuvius is more celebrated than Mount Etna, although it is only 4,000 feet in height, against the nearly eleven thousand feet of Etna. Probably Vesuvius has been nearly or quite twice its present height.

The first eruption of Vesuvius of

suddenly dying into a sickly paleness, like the ghost of their own life. "In the pauses of the showers you heard the rumbling of the earth beneath and the groaning waves of the tortured sea, or, lower still, and audible but to the watch of the intensest fear, the grinding and hissing murmur of the escaping gases through the chasms of the distant mountain. Sometimes the cloud appeared to break from its solid mass and by the lightning to assume quaint and vast mimics of human or of monster shapes striding across the gloom, crowding one upon the other and vanishing swiftly into the turbulent abyss of shade.

Suddenly the place became lighted with an intense and lurid glow. Bright and gigantic through the darkness which closed around it like the walls of hell the mountain shone—a pile of fire. Its summit seemed risen in two, or rather, above its surface there seemed to rise two monster shapes, each confronting each as demons contending for a world. These were of one blood-red hue of fire, which lighted up the whole atmosphere far and wide, but below the base of the mountain was still dark and shrouded save in three places, down which flowed serpentine and irregular rivers of the molten lava. Dark red through the profound gloom of their banks they flowed slowly on toward the city. Through the still air was heard the rattling of the fragments of rock crashing one upon another as they were borne down the fiery cataraacts, darkening for one instant the spot where they fell and suffused the next in the burnished hues



of the flood along which they floated." The effect of this eruption was to destroy the entire side of the mountain nearest to the sea, leaving the only ridge on the south flank now called La Pedamentina, and that portion of



ETNA FROM CATANIA HARBOR.

the wall which under the name of Somma encloses about two-fifths of the new cone. This cone is the present Vesuvius, which has continued to be the almost exclusive channel of eruption to the present day.